

Published on HeraldNet.com - The Herald, Everett, Wash.

Marysville's State Avenue project will wrap up early

By Cathy Logg
Herald Writer

MARYSVILLE -- Like a set of falling dominoes, the State Avenue improvement project is dependent on certain kinds of work being done in a certain order.

The \$6.4 million project has been done in phases to limit the effect on businesses. Along the way, the city has changed some things to move the project along.

Even so, many businesses have suffered, with some reporting losses of up to 40 percent because of lane or road closures. But most agree the project will make things better in the long run.

Described by city officials as Marysville's most significant economic development project in at least a decade, the project is moving utilities underground; installing old-style traffic lights; improving sewer, water and drainage; making sidewalks wider; and planting trees along about a mile of State Avenue.

It will be followed by development of Ebey Slough Waterfront Park on the south end of State Avenue. The Marysville City Council will review bids on Monday.

City officials worried that some work on State Avenue would hold up other parts of the project because the company that is providing the light fixtures won't be able to deliver them until mid-June. Some other parts of the project that could be done have had to wait until the street lights are in.

But the city got good news this week. The light fixtures will be delivered this month, city engineer Kevin Nielsen said.

"We have the poles, but not the light fixtures," project manager Dave Lervik said. "It's causing a whole bunch of other stuff that we have to wait on. It's rather complicated. It's very much like dominoes."

The city plans to install about 50 new light poles.

Meanwhile, city officials expect to open all five lanes of State Avenue from First Street to Grove Street on July 15 -- about a month ahead of schedule.

The new poles must be installed before the old ones can be removed.

"We have to have replacement streetlights in before we can take the old ones down," Lervik said.

Once the old poles are gone, crews can finish up the curb work where the old poles were, and some storm drainage work at Eighth Street, Lervik said.

Marshbank Construction can't move in until the electrical workers and other subcontractors move out, Lervik said.

The last things to be done will be to add a final layer of pavement on the entire project and then stripe it. The project was paid for with state and federal money and city capital projects funds.

Right now, State Avenue from First to Fourth streets is closed, and only two lanes of Fourth to Grove are open.

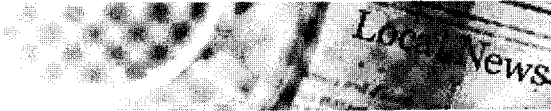
The roadwork won't affect the Strawberry Festival's 69th annual parade on June 19, Lervik said.

"We're having discussions every week about the fact that the parade is coming up and what we can do to make things better," he said.

Tuesday, May 11, 2004
Tri CityHerald.com



Construction crews cut a three-mile swath through a stretch of farmland for the Finley Intertie project linking Highway 397 in Finley with Interstate 82, crossing Zintel Canyon and passing through the lower portion of the Horse Heaven Hills southwest of Finley. The first phase of the \$13 million project is expected to cost about \$2.5 million and should be completed this fall. The project is being paid by a combination of state and federal grants and loans and money from Benton County and the Port of Kennewick. The other two phases, connecting Olympia Street to Finley Road and Finley Road to Highway 397, are to be done in 2005 and 2006. (Herald/Bob Brawdy)



News

Classifieds

Community

Directory

Shopping

My Zwire!

Home -> News -> News -> Top Stories

Wednesday 12 May, 2004

▼ News

Top Stories

Weather Forecast

Current Local

Weather

Schools

Sports

Obituaries

Community News

Police/Courts

Opinion

► Lifestyles

► Classifieds

► Business

Directory

► Our Newspaper

► Personal Finance

► Advanced News

Search

Top Stories

Compromise reached in Burdin Boulevard

by Stephen Mercer

May 12, 2004

Starting later this year, people who want to go to the dentist or chiropractor in Grand Coulee will have only one choice in the way they enter and exit the building.

Mayor Tammara Byers said the city has reached an agreement with Burdin Boulevard building owner Milt Snyder.

The agreement should allow the Burdin Boulevard renovation project to move forward.

"So that's good news," she said at the May 4 council meeting.

Under the new plan, after the project ends, only the driveway on the west side of the building will stay open.

Byers said traffic entering the parking lot behind the building or accessing nearby buildings or homes can only enter one portion of the driveway.

That portion runs from the Grant County Public Utility Box to the building.

Traffic can only leave the building by making a right-hand turn from the portion of driveway between the PUD box and the edge of the driveway, Byers said.

No other types of turns will be permitted.

The agreement was the last hurdle before the project, estimated to cost between \$250,000 and \$300,000, could begin. The project is mainly funded by a \$243,000 grant from the state's Transportation Improvement Board.

The renovation, which will run on Burdin Boulevard from highway 174 to Second Street, begins this summer.

The renovations include street paving, new sidewalks, storm drains and more.

The compromise was made after Snyder and others met with the city council to protest part of the plan by engineering firm Gray and Osborne.

Snyder did not agree with the proposed sidewalk, since it would cut off parking to the west side of his building. He said the parking behind the building was necessary to give his tenants, their patients and suppliers safety from traffic on the road.

The tenants are chiropractor Russell Barnings, dentist Lawrence Rehn and Okanogan County Home Health and Hospice.

Snyder also said that since the project would require parallel parking in front of the building, the parking behind the building would make up for the lost parking space.

The city currently allows head-in parking on the street, with spaces often full with either customers at the building or overflow traffic from Coulee Community Hospital across the street.

Snyder said the city engineers' plan to keep open an east side road would not work because its too narrow safely allow large trucks and emergency vehicles to pass through. He plans to close off that side later this year.

So based on the recommendation of Councilmember Mick Palanuk, the city, their engineers Gray and Osborne and Snyder offered the compromise to TIB after the April 19 meeting.

TIB accepted the changes and will still provide the funding.